



# Arizona Department of Public Safety

## Press Release

Monday, October 13, 2008

## DPS officer dies in the line of duty

At about 3:18 p.m. today, an Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) Officer/Air Rescue Paramedic Bruce W. Harrolle was killed in the line of duty while performing a rescue of two stranded hikers near Bell Rock in the Sedona area. Officer Harrolle, 36, was a nine year veteran of DPS and is survived by his wife, two young children and his parents.

The incident occurred after the DPS Air Rescue Ranger Helicopter based in Flagstaff responded to a request from the Sedona Fire Department and the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office to assist with a search and rescue mission of two stranded and dehydrated hikers at about 2:40 p.m.

The DPS Special Investigations Unit is investigating this aviation incident. In addition, the National Traffic Safety Board (NTSB) will be heading to the scene to conduct their investigation of this aviation incident. More details will become available upon completion of the investigation.

This is a very trying and emotional time for the family, the friends of the officer, the DPS family, as well as the law enforcement and emergency medical community. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of the officer. Funeral arrangements are pending and information about such services will be made available in the coming days. Prior to today's incident, DPS had not lost an officer in the line of duty since March of 2000.

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*The mission of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, one of the most dynamic state-level law enforcement agency in United States, is to protect human life and property by enforcing state laws, deterring criminal activity, assuring the safety of the motoring public on Arizona's highways and providing vital scientific, technical and operational support to other criminal justice agencies. The Department, also one of Arizona's largest law enforcement agencies with over 2,200 sworn and civilian employees, consists of four divisions – Highway Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Criminal Justice Support and Agency Support. The Department is headquartered in Phoenix with offices located in more than 80 communities within Arizona's 15 counties.*

### Press Inquiries:

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